

Please amend the subject application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 5-8, 18-19, 40-42, 67-76, and 78 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue protection for the subject matter defined by these claims if applicants determine to do so in a continuation or divisional application in the future.

Please add new claims 79-91 as follows.

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--79 (New) A method for inhibiting T cell proliferation comprising contacting CD28 positive T cells with a soluble B7 fusion protein so as to bind the CD28 receptor on the CD28 positive T cells with the soluble B7 protein and thereby inhibiting T cell proliferation.

--80. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the soluble B7 fusion protein has an amino acid sequence containing amino acid residues from about position 1 to about position 215 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of B7 antigen which recognizes and binds the CD28 positive T cells.

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--81. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the soluble B7 fusion protein comprises a fusion polypeptide having a first amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of B7 antigen which recognizes and binds the CD28 antigen and a second amino acid sequence corresponding to a moiety that alters the solubility, affinity, and/or valency of the soluble B7 fusion protein for binding to the CD28 receptor.

--82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the moiety
is an immunoglobulin constant region.

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--83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the
immunoglobulin constant region is a human
immunoglobulin Cyl region.

--84. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the soluble B7 fusion protein comprises a fusion polypeptide having a first amino acid sequence containing amino acid residues from about position 1 to about position 215 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of the soluble B7 fusion protein which recognizes and binds the CD28 antigen and a second amino acid

sequence corresponding to the hinge, CH2, and CH3 regions of human immunoglobulin Cy1.

--85. (New) A method for preventing the binding of the CD28 receptor to a B7 antigen comprising contacting CD28 positive T cells with a soluble B7 fusion protein which recognizes and binds the CD28 receptor on the CD28 positive T cells thereby preventing binding of the receptor to the B7 antigen.

--86. (New) The method of claim 85, wherein the soluble B7 fusion protein is a B7Ig fusion protein comprising an amino acid sequence containing amino acid residues from about position 1 to about position 215 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of the B7 antigen which recognizes and binds CD28.--

--87. (New) The method of claim 86, wherein the fusion protein is B7Ig fusion protein corresponding to the amino acid sequence encoded by DNA having ATCC No. 68627.

--88. (New) A method of inhibiting CD28 positive T cell activation comprising reacting B7 positive cells

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with a soluble CD28 fusion protein so as to bind the B7 positive cells with the soluble CD28 fusion protein thereby inhibiting T cell activation.

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--89. (New) The method of claim 88, wherein the soluble CD28 fusion protein comprises a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence containing amino acid residues from about position 1 to about position 134 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of CD28 receptor.

--90. (New) The method of claim 89, wherein the soluble CD28 fusion protein has a first amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of CD28 receptor and a second amino acid sequence corresponding to a moiety that alters the solubility, affinity, and/or valency of the CD28 receptor for binding to B7 antigen.

--91. (New) The method of claim 90, wherein the moiety is an immunoglobulin constant region.

--92. (New) The method of claim 91, wherein the immunoglobulin constant region is a human immunoglobulin Cγ1 region.

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--93. (New) The method of claim 88, wherein the soluble CD28 fusion protein comprises a polypeptide having a first amino acid sequence containing amino acid residues from about position 1 to about position 134 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of CD28 receptor and a second amino acid sequence corresponding to the hinge, CH₂, and CH₃ regions of human immunoglobulin C_γ1.

--94. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the fusion protein is CD28Ig fusion protein corresponding to the amino acid sequence encoded by DNA having ATCC No. 68628.

--95. (New) A method for preventing the binding of the B7 receptor to a CD28 antigen comprising contacting B7 positive cells with a soluble CD28 fusion protein which recognizes and binds the B7 receptor on the B7 positive cells thereby preventing binding of the receptor to the CD28 antigen.

--96. (New) The method of claim 95, wherein the soluble CD28 fusion protein is a CD28Ig fusion protein comprising an amino acid sequence containing amino

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acid residues from about position 1 to about position 134 of the amino acid sequence corresponding to the extracellular domain of the CD28 receptor which recognizes and binds the B7 antigen.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 18, 19, 40-42, and 78 were pending. Applicants canceled claims 1, 3, 5-8, 18, 19, 40-42, and 78 hereinabove and added new claims 79-96. Accordingly, claims 79-96 are pending.

Support for new claims 79-96 may be found as follows.

Support for new claim 79 may be found in originally filed claim 1.

Support for new claim 80 may be found in originally filed claims 1, 3, and 5.

Support for new claim 81 may be found in originally filed claims 1, 3, and 6.

Support for new claim 82 may be found in originally filed claim 7.

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